



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/918,347	07/30/2001	Yishay Mansour	03022/37258	5770
4743	7590	03/22/2005	EXAMINER	
MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP 6300 SEARS TOWER 233 S. WACKER DRIVE CHICAGO, IL 60606			GREY, CHRISTOPHER P	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2667	

DATE MAILED: 03/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No. **09/918,347**

Applicant(s)

MANSOUR ET AL.

Examiner

Christopher P Grey

Art Unit

2667

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 July 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 July 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "26" has been used to designate both characters 26 and 28. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the examiner does not accept the changes, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 11 is objected to because of the following informalities:
Claim 11 discloses "a buffer management policy according to claim 2", where neither claim 1 nor claim 2 disclose a buffer management policy.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1, 2, 3, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 17, 18, 20, 21 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bennett (US 2002/0048277)

Claim 1 Bennett discloses associating (sorting) all the queues of the buffer in a series of buckets, where the buckets are logical groupings (Page 3 paragraph 0026). The queues are associated with the queue buckets according to the size of the size of the queue (Page 3 paragraph 0031).

Bennett discloses assigning/associating (selecting) according to a queue bucket (group) containing a number of queues in accordance with the size (sorted order) as disclosed on page 3 paragraph 0031.

Bennett discloses the buffer being configured to form n buckets (groups), corresponding to queues of varying lengths (page 3 paragraph 0026 and 0027).

Bennett discloses receiving a packet into one of the queues associated with its bucket based on the determination of whether the capacity for storing packets is exceeded (page 3 paragraph 0031 and 0032).

Claim 2, 13 Bennett discloses associating queues with a bucket (group) based on size, where the maximum sizes of the queues that can be associated with the bucket are given by a function (paragraph 0026 and 0027).

Claim 3, 21 Bennett discloses that the size ranges (allocated space) of the buckets (groups) can be changed as the size of the queues change (page 3 paragraph 0028), where the queues are associated to buckets based on size (harmonically).

Claim 8, 15 Bennett discloses buffer space being allocated by a longest queue discard policy (buffer management policy) that is based on a number of set conditions (page 2-3 paragraph 0025).

Claim 10, 17 Bennett discloses each bucket containing a number of queues, where there is a fixed size range, limiting the amount of queues stored in a bucket (page 3 paragraphs 0027 and 0028).

Claim 11, 18 Bennet discloses the size ranges (allocated space) of the buckets being dynamically changed as the queue size changes (page 3 paragraph 0028).

Claim 12 Bennett discloses associating (sorting) all the queues of the buffer in a series of buckets, where the buckets are logical groupings (Page 3 paragraph 0026). The queues are associated with the queue buckets according to the size of the size of the queue (Page 3 paragraph 0031).

Bennett discloses assigning/associating (selecting) according to a queue bucket (group) containing a number of queues in accordance with the size (sorted order) as disclosed on page 3 paragraph 0031.

Bennett discloses associating queues with a bucket (group) based on size, where the maximum sizes of the queues that can be associated with the bucket are given by a function (paragraph 0026 and 0027).

Bennett discloses receiving a packet into one of the queues associated with its bucket based on the determination of whether the capacity for storing packets is exceeded (page 3 paragraph 0031 and 0032).

Bennett discloses the discarding of packetized data in the event that the acceptance of a packet will exceed the maximum capacity (page 3 paragraph 0032).

Claim 20 Bennet discloses a buffer (memory) providing a capacity of space, adapted to contain a plurality of queues (page 2 paragraph 0023).

Bennett discloses a controller (see abstract) for associating (sorting) all the queues of the buffer in a series of buckets, where the buckets are logical groupings (Page 3 paragraph 0026). The queues are associated with the queue buckets according to the size of the size of the queue (Page 3 paragraph 0031).

Bennett discloses associating queues with a bucket (group) based on size, where the maximum sizes of the queues that can be associated with the bucket are given by a function (paragraph 0026 and 0027).

Claim 24 Bennett discloses the total capacity (M) not being exceeded by the total size of a bucket (group of queues) as disclosed in Fig 4.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 14, 16, 19, 22, 23 and 25 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

(a) Choudhury et al. (US 5541912) discloses a dynamic threshold system and method for allocating memory among different output queues in a buffer. The invention also discloses determining a length of an output queue.

(b) Hluchyj et al. (US 5231633) discloses in fig 4 an enqueueing process whereby queues are grouped according to a class of service (queue length or bandwidth).

Art Unit: 2667


6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher P Grey whose telephone number is (571)272-3160. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chi Pham can be reached on (571)272-3179. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Christopher Grey
Examiner
Art Unit 2667

C. Grey
3/8/05


APBAR QURESHI
PRIMARY EXAMINER 3/16/05